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The CABLE TOW

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HARMONY

Harmony is a unifying force.

It is not divisive causing discord and unwarranted disagreement.
It is not sowing dissension, sowing discordance, sowing hostility.

Harmony is rapprochement, understanding and finding common ground.

It is not alienation or separation.
It is not estrangement, to turn off anyone.

Harmony is agreeing without being disagreeable.

It is not conflict or contention.
It is not opposing anyone for the sake of opposition.

Harmony is coordination, collaboration and accommodation.

It is not disorder or creating disturbance.
It is not confusion or chaos.

Harmony is like music - a vocal or instrumental sound having rhythm, melody and agreeable tonal qualities.

It is not a cacophony, grating, raucous sound.
It is not discordant or dissonant boom and thunder.

Harmony is Masonry "formed and perfected in so much unanimity and concord."

It "enjoys every satisfaction and delight which disinterested friendship can afford."

It is "kindness and brotherly affection", which is the distinguishing mark of conduct of Master Masons. SPF

MESSAGE

MW ROMEO S. MOMO
Grand Master



While what I occupy is called the Grand Oriental Chair, for the first 153 days in the office, it is very seldom you will find me sitting. Instead, I endeavoured to go around and be with the brethren. I am endeavouring to make the most out of these 365 days you my brethren have entrusted me to serve you. At my inaugural address in Davao, my opening statement was, *venit tempus* or the time has come. I have said, the time has come to be more than we used to be, to surpass ourselves, to be better Masons, to be of better service to the Fraternity, and to be of better assistance to the society.

As I made my first step as your Grand Master, I requested you my brethren, to walk with me, side by side, on the level, and as brothers. Then and now, I urge you to join hands with me as we continue to labor on the remaining days of this 365-day journey and endeavour to achieve a more Relevant and Streamlined Masonry for all.

Hence, in this first regular issue of The Cabletow, we have devoted more on the activities your Grand Master and his team have attended, giving particular importance on the completion of the constitution of 10 new Lodges. Only one was done in the Grand Lodge, the others, we devoted time and effort, and purposely went to the town or city where these Lodges are located. This is to impress upon the brethren the importance and solemnity of the Rite of Lodge Constitution, to let the brethren and the public know the essence of having a Masonic Lodge in their locality,

and to impress upon the Masons therein the enormous task of what it means to be a Mason in a particular area - that of becoming a good example of a citizen and an individual, for others to look up to and emulate.

With the aim of propagating our tenets and principles, we also had two Rites of Institution for Cabuyao City Lodge U.D. and Davao De Oro Lodge U.D. Further, we went to Tuguegarao and Batangas for the corner stone laying ceremonies of the new Masonic Temples to be built therein.

In our effort to have a relevant Masonry, not only for Masons but for our society, we focused on two important issues, environment and education. Thus our activities in line with these priority programs were accorded reasonable space in this issue.

“Freemasonry is founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice, and its grand object is to promote the happiness of the human race.”

Brother Mason, George Washington

On **environment**, we launched our yearlong tree planting activity. We are aspiring to plant at least a million trees to help make our environment better, not only for us, but for our children, for our children’s children, for our future. Thus last June 24, during the Feast of one of our Patrons, St. John the Baptist, we launched our tree-planting program. This nationwide activity was coordinated with the support of the Local Government Units, various government agencies, Appendant and Allied

Organizations, and family of Masons. So far, a close to 150,000 trees were planted. My thanks to the DDGMs who are continuing this project. Medyomadami-dami pa ang bubunuin natin mga Kapatid. Hence at the soonest, we shall be launching our second wave. Further, by September 15, coastal clean-up and mangrove planting shall be undertaken.

On **Assistance to Public Education System**, all DDGMs and Masonic Districts did their respective Balik Eskwela Programs. This includes the refurbishment of school buildings and classrooms, the giving of school supplies, books, shoes and slippers, among others. We also turned over a motorized bangkain Bulacan to be used by teachers in reaching far flung barangays to teach the Dumagat students. We also went to Pavia, Iloilo and led the turn over ceremony of new school building for Cabugao Elementary School. Little and simple as they may be, our effort will go a long way and will be cherished forever by the young students we have assisted. We have, at least, made a difference in the lives of these children.

Much is to be done my Brethren, given the very limited period we are called to perform. Let us continue the course, neither faltering nor wavering. And with us being united, working in harmony with each other, we shall not fail. As aptly proclaimed by an American President and Brother Mason, George Washington, “Freemasonry is founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice, and its grand object is to promote the happiness of the human race.”

Individually and collectively as an institution, we brethren shall serve our purpose.

Maraming salamat at mabuhay!











SCHOOL BUILDING DONATION
PAVIA ILOILO, JUNE 3, 2018

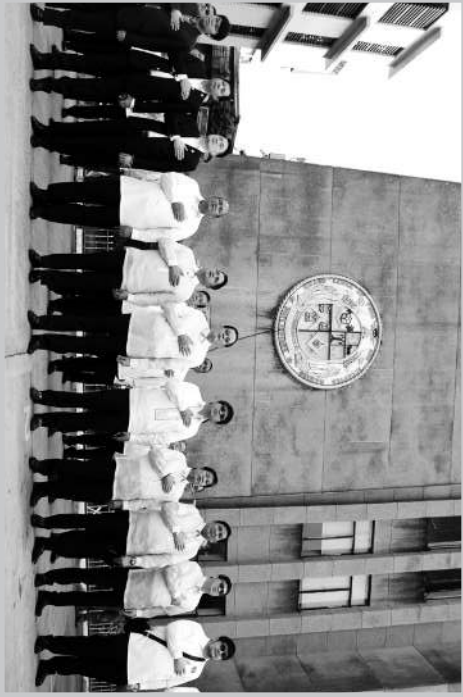


**SCHOOL BUILDING DONATION
PAVIA ILOILO, JUNE 3, 2018**





FLAG RAISING CEREMONIES



INDEPENDENCE DAY AT LUNETTA PARK
WITH VP LENI ROBREDO, JUNE 12, 2018



INDEPENDENCE DAY AT GLP, JUNE 12, 2018



INDEPENDENCE DAY AT GLP,
JUNE 12, 2018



TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR THE PAST MASTER & DISTINGUISHED MASON, AT MANILA HOTEL, JUNE 12, 2018



TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR THE PAST MASTER & DISTINGUISHED MASON, AT MANILA HOTEL, JUNE 12, 2018















Worshipful Brother Rogelio R. Uy, Worshipful Master; Bro. Mel Deo H. Abad, Senior Warden; Bro. Leonardo R. Subiela, Junior Warden and Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 Brethren.











Officers of Davao De Oro Lodge UD







COURTESY CALLS







IMES 2018-115 Hinirang Class Officers: Juan B. Anonuevo, President, Laong Laan Lodge No. 185; Robert Benito G. Tolentino, Vice President, Quezon City Lodge No. 122; Marc Gil S. Medina, Treasurer, Quezon City Lodge No. 122; Tyrone Stevenson T. Chua, Secretary, Quezon City Lodge No. 122; Antonio P. Eugenio, Historian, Juan Sumulong Lodge No. 169.



IMES 2018-116 Mandirigma Class Officers: Benjamin Cid, President, Union Lodge No. 70; Paul DC. Faustino, Vice President, La Trinidad Lodge No. 344; Marvin B. Bisares, Treasurer, Abra Lodge No. 86; Allan Joseph C. Cadawan, Secretary, La Trinidad Lodge No. 344.



IMES 2018-118 Convergent Class Officers: Mariano P. Pagaddu, President, Gonzaga Lodge No. 66; Julius A. Jimenez, Vice President, Mabini Lodge No. 39; Grandee P. Dumlao, Treasurer, Tuguegarao Lodge No. 408; Domingo J. De Asis, Secretary, Gualberto C. Agatep, Sr. Mem. Lodge No. 341; Basilio A. Membrot, Historian, Mabini Lodge No. 39.



IMES 2018-119 AFI Class Officers: Anthony M. Olalia, President, Gonzaga Lodge No. 66; Anthony Raymond D. Ma, Vice President, Mabini Lodge No. 39; Ren Geramis F. Bais, Treasurer, Rio Chico Lodge No. 182; Cornelius T. Dannang, Secretary, Mampiya-an Lodge No. 284; Warner T. Alavarez, Historian, Gonzaga Lodge No. 66.

Philippine Independence

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DATE:

FACT VERSUS FICTION



VR Samuel P. Fernandez

June 12 is known as Philippine Independence Day.

That is a fact.

Republic Act No. 4166 changed the date of Philippine Independence Day from July 4 to June 12.

That is a fact.

Proclamation 2695 entitled "Independence of the Philippines" declared that the Philippines was recognized by the United States as an independent country on July 4, 1946.

That, too, is a fact.

The proclamation was "done at the City of Washington this Fourth Day of July in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United

States of America, the one hundred and seventy-first."

On June 12, 1898, General Emilio Aguinaldo "declared" independence from Spain.

That also is a fact.

General Aguinaldo, in his declaration of Philippine Independence in Cavite-Viejo, Province of Cavite, stated in part the reason for his declaration thus: *"Because of arbitrary arrests and abuses of the Civil Guards who cause deaths in connivance with and even under the express order of their superior officers who at times would order the shooting of those placed under arrest under the pretext that they attempted to escape in violation of known Rules and Regulations, which abuses were left unpunished, and because of unjust deportations of Illustrious Filipinos, especially those decreed by General Blanco at the instigation of the Archbishop and friars interested in keeping them in ignorance for egotistic and selfish ends, which deportation were carried out through processes more execrable than those of the Inquisition which*

every civilized nation repudiates as a trial without hearing.”

Celebrating Independence Day on June 12 based on General Aguinaldo’s proclamation, is fiction.

On May 12, 1962, President Diosdado Macapagal declared June 12 as Philippine Independence Day, through Proclamation No. 28. In the Preamble are stated:

“WHEREAS, the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the Revolutionary Government under General Emilio Aguinaldo on June 12, 1898, marked our people’s declaration and exercise of their right to self-determination, liberty and independence;

“WHEREAS, such a historic and inspiring action was a legitimate assertion by the Filipino nation of their natural and inalienable claim to freedom and independence, which is an inherent right of every people not dependent upon the will and discretion of another; and

“WHEREAS, the transcendental importance of the event demands that it be observed throughout the land with fitting ceremonies to the end that it will be cherished forever in the hearts of the Filipino people and inspire them and posterity to greater dedication and endeavor for the welfare of the country and the well-being of mankind;

“NOW, THEREFORE, I,

DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL, President of the Philippines by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 30 of the Revised Administrative Code, do hereby declare Tuesday, June 12, 1962, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippine in commemoration of our people’s declaration of their inherent and inalienable right to freedom and independence.”

Reading President Macapagal’s Proclamation No. 28 based on Gen. Aguinaldo’s Proclamation that automatically the Filipinos enjoyed freedom and liberty, is fiction. Which nation recognized our independence? General Aguinaldo’s declaration was aborted by the Treaty of Paris. Spain and the United State of America did not recognize Bro/ Gen. Aguinaldo’s proclamation of Independence. No other countries recognize the proclamation either.

When President Corazon Aquino was elected President, several nations acknowledged and recognized her government.

Was the Philippines independent during the Japanese and the United States’ occupation and rule?

How do we explain the following preamble as contained in the United States’ Proclamation 2695, which states thus: “The United States of America hereby withdraws and surrenders all rights of possession,



CASA DEL GENERAL AGUINALDO

wikipedia.org

supervision, jurisdiction, control or sovereignty now existing and exercised by the United States of America in and over the territory and people of the Philippines; and, On behalf of the United States of America, I do hereby recognize the independence of the Philippines as a separate and self-governing nation and acknowledge the authority and control over the same of the government instituted by the people thereof, under the constitution now in force.”

The above primary documents in no uncertain way show that the United States of America occupied our country. From 1901 to 1935,

the Philippines had American Governors General similar to the Spanish who ruled us for 333 years.

In 1935, the Philippines became a Commonwealth of the United States.

From 1941 to 1944, the Japanese Imperial forces established their Government in the country until the end of Second World War.

How then can we say that we had Philippine Independence from June 12, 1898 to July 4, 1946?

Perhaps it is time to acknowledge and point out to our countrymen that the struggle for Philippine independence did not materialize when Aguinaldo made his declaration

in Cavite-Viejo.

Historians Francisco M. Zulueta and Abriel M. Nebres in their book entitled *"Philippine History and Government, Through the Years"* pointed out that, "Then, when ex President Diosdado Macapagal became the fifth president of this republic that America made, he issued Proclamation 28 in 1962, affirming the invalidated proclamation of Philippine independence from Spain, by General Aguinaldo. Later, Proclamation 28 became Republic Act No. 4166, that ordered the change of July 4 to June 12, and also ordered all Filipinos to celebrate Philippine independence on June 12.

"But remember, RA 4166 affirmed an invalidated proclamation of Philippine independence from Spain that never happened. The true independence that the Philippines achieved was given by America on July 4, 1946. Celebrating Philippine independence on June 12 is purporting to say that the Philippines received independence from Spain, which is a blatant lie. Therefore Filipinos celebrating independence day on June 12 are liars, on this issue. Filipinos must stop celebrating independence on June 12, or else be liars forever. The writer have sent two letters each to all representatives and senators since July 15, 2012, requesting them to

repeal or revise Republic Act 4166, to correct this error. To this day, May 22, 2015, no one ever did."

The authors further added, that: *"All Filipinos must know that the Tydings-McDuffie Law, passed by the US Congress, that gave the Philippines its independence on July 4, 1946, was approved first by President Quezon and Vice President Osmena, before it became a law and there was no objection recorded against the similarity of the American and Philippine independence day that are both on July 4. Instead, there was pride and honor and gratitude for the benevolent benefactor that gave the Philippines its genuine independence after only 48 years of occupation."*

Our independence is the handy work of Mason leaders beginning from President Aguinaldo, Apolinario Mabini and independence mission leaders like Grand Master Manuel Quezon, President Roxas, Dean Conrado Benitez and many others. Bro. Chief Justice Manuel V. Moran administered the Oath of Office of Bro. President Roxas.

On July 4, 1946, Brother Paul V. McNutt, last High Commissioner of the Philippines and first American Ambassador to the Philippines, lowered the American flag, while Brother President Manuel A. Quezon raised the Philippine flag, during the celebration when the United States

recognized our independence day.

The United States' Proclamation 2695, known as "Independence of the Philippines," was signed by President Harry S. Truman of the United States of America, who was a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The occasion was attended by Bro. Senator Milliard E. Tydings, Bro. General Douglas MacArthur and several Mason Army Generals.

What makes June 12 as Philippine Independence Day is a fact as provided by Republic Act No. 4166, entitled "*An Act Changing the Date of Philippine Independence Day from July Four to June Twelve, and Declaring July Four as Philippine Republic Day, further Amending for the Purpose Section Twenty-Nine of the Revised Administrative Code.*"

"I have always loved my poor motherland, and I am sure I shall always love her to the last moment even though perhaps men are unjust to me; and my future, my life, my joys, all I have, I sacrificed for my love of my country."

*"For our country in war
For our country in peace
The Filipino will be ready,
While he lives and when he dies."*

-Jose Rizal

Memorable Encounter

MY MEMORABLE ENCOUNTER WITH GEN. EMILIO F. AGUINALDO

By: Ill. Avelino T. Torres, 33°



The year 1961, I was assigned as Veterans Medical Leader in Quezon City, Philippines. The head of the Medical Service at that time was a certain Dr. Bautista who was also the nephew of the General Emilio F. Aguinaldo. He was the physician in charge of the patient. But Dr. Bautista was a very busy man so that he assigned new physicians to monitor his patient Gen Emilio F. Aguinaldo, who was bedridden but mentally capable. This will establish the fact that I was not his primary physician. Most new physicians especially from Luzon seem to weigh the task, probably because the patient was so demanding and was ready to use the ever-ready cane always beside him. Beforehand

we were admonished never to speak English to him, only Tagalog or Spanish. The task before me was daunting but my job felt all right with him because he even asked from what province I came from. When informed, he asked me if I had heard of Pantaleon Villegas. I told him that the man was my wife's grand uncle. I served him for only a month because I had to transfer to another hospital to pursue my specialty study and learning. The General died in 1962.

My personal impression of the General is that he was an aristocratic gentleman with commanding personality who demanded what he wants done. No wonder he became the 1st Philippine President.

THE HISTORY OF *The History* NOLI ME TANGERE LODGE 42

By WB Rogelio "Jay" R. Uy, Jr.

Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42, Centennial Worshipful Master

In 1982, Brother Rene C. Damian (then Senior Warden), made a thorough and diligent research on the history of the Lodge by going over copies of the Grand Lodge proceedings and early issues of the Cabletow magazine. Through this research, the history of the Lodge was known and subsequent updates was made by the new officers...

On August 13, 1917, Noli Me Tangere Lodge, through its officers and members dedication and hard work, received a Dispensation from then Grand Master, MW William H. Taylor, to work at Rizal (now Pasay) City, with Manuel de Santos as its Worshipful Master.

On January 22, 1918, the Grand Lodge's Committee on Charters recommend that Noli Me Tangere Lodge Under Dispensation (U.D.) be granted a Charter and numbered "42" on the registration of



the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines (“Grand Lodge”).

On March 18, 1918, Grand Master MW Manuel Luis M. Quezon granted Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 its Charter and duly constituted it in solemn ceremonies held at the Masonic Temple in Escolta, Manila. Likewise, the officers of the Lodge headed by MW Manuel de Santos were installed.

From 1920 to 1934, the following brethren served Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 as Worshipful Masters: WB Adam D. Tanner, 1920; WB Dionisio San Agustin, 1921-1922, 1927-1928; WB Julian M. Quiat, 1923; WB Abundio del Rosario, 1924; WB Gregorio Mercado, 1925; WB Isabelo Concepcion, 1926; WB Estanislao Alfonso, 1929; WB Alipiodela Cruz, 1930; WB Brigidio Capili, 1931; WB Rufino Macalinao, 1932; WB Primitivo Lovina, 1933; WB Godofredo Ricafort, 1934.

The Lodge faced a lot of trials and hardships especially during the war years. There came a time when most of its officers find difficulty in managing various concerns of the Lodge, even failure to submit records of its proceedings. As a consequence, on June 30, 1935, the Lodge was forced to return its Charter to the Grand Lodge.

On March 7, 1947, the brethren of the Lodge petitioned to the Grand Lodge that they be permitted to reactivate Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42, and this was granted by the then Grand Master MW Emilio Virata. WB Abundio del Rosario served as the Worshipful Master of the reactivated Lodge.

On March 11, 1948, the Lodge, again,

surrendered its Charter to the Grand Lodge, having the same reason when it happened in 1935. Subsequently, members of the Lodge passed a resolution that Noli Me Tangere be affiliated en masse with Service Lodge No. 95. This resolution was given due consideration by the Grand Lodge. During this difficult period, WB Dominador Villanueva acted as its Master.

In 1955, WB Delfin C. Simbra, Jr. and WB Marciano P. Gatmaitan spearheaded a move to reactivate Noli Me Tangere Lodge. Accordingly, the brethren sent a petition to the leadership of the Grand Lodge to grant them another dispensation to duly assemble as a Lodge. On December 26, 1955, the petition was approved by then Grand Master Camilo Osias. It was WB Dominador Villanueva who served as its Worshipful Master for a year.

In 1957, WB Hilario G. Esguerra, who later became Senior Grand Lecturer, served as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. He proposed to the brethren to petition to the Grand Lodge to change the number of Noli Me Tangere Lodge. The Committee on Charters of the Grand Lodge recommended that the number be changed from 42 to 148. This recommendation was approved by then Grand Master Clinton F. Carlson who issued a new Charter to the Lodge on July 8, 1957. From that year on, Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 grew both in strength and in number.

In the 1960's, Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 was recognized as one of the top Lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction. It became well known throughout the Grand jurisdiction because of its proficiency in

ritualistic and ceremonial work, and its conferral teams were invited by Lodges in different regions of the country to communicate the degrees of Symbolic or Ancient Craft masonry to their candidates.

The following brethren continued the dedicated work of their predecessors, guaranteeing that the dignity of the Oriental Chair is well preserved, and that the best interest and welfare of the Lodge are safely confided to their charge: WB Brigido Sarong, 1958; WB Amado L. Bautista, 1959; WB Francisco delos Santos, 1960; WB Cesar C. Aguilar, 1961; WB Caesar C. Rillona, 1962; WB Ruben Marconda, 1963; WB Ramon S. Lagbao, 1964; WB Generoso R. Cortes, 1965; WB Antonio G. Evangelista, 1966; WB Leonides C. Arriola, 1967; WB Porfirio A. Rigor, 1968; WB Fernando Castro, 1969.

The following brethren labored hard to equal, if not surpass, the achievement of their predecessors: WB Jose Ang Dy Pay, 1970; WB Samuel P. Fernandez, 1971; WB Casiano U. Laput, 1972; WB Florencio S. Versoza, 1973; WB Charles Lim, 1974; WB Ruben J. Reyes, 1975-1979.

In the 1980's, Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 was thrice voted Outstanding Lodge of Masonic District No. 7 (formerly MD I-C and now MD NCR-D). The brethren were resolute to recapture the Lodge's glory in the 1960's. Thus, the Lodge garnered many awards. Several of its members were chosen Outstanding Master Masons, Wardens, Worshipful Masters, and Grand Lodge Inspectors in the District.

From 1980 to 1989, the following brethren served Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 as Worshipful Masters: WB Diosdado

B. Kibir, Jr., 1980-1981; WB Anselmo D. Almazan, 1982; WB Waldemar V. Valmore, 1983; WB Florencio D. Gonzales, 1984; WB Manuel C. Bahena, Sr., 1985; WB Rene C. Damian, 1986; WB Manuel C. Bahena, Jr., 1987; WB Francisco M. Lovero, 1988; WB Alexander B. Dairocas, 1989.

In 1983, during the term of then Grand Master Rosendo C. Herrera, VW Marcelino Dysangco served as Assistant Grand Secretary and VW Samuel P. Fernandez as Senior Grand Steward. Brother Jesus Flor R. Nicolas and VW Samuel P. Fernandez were members of the editorial staff of "The Cabletow" and "The Far Eastern Freemason" for several years. Some members of the Lodge were appointed members of the "kitchen cabinets" of many Grand Master and others were chosen as Grand Line Officers. VW Rene C. Damian, PDDGM, was selected as the first Most Outstanding Master Mason in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines in 1984-1985 for his dedicated labors in establishing the Grand Lodge Library and Museum and in renovating the old Plaridel Masonic Temple. Like him, WB Francisco M. Lovero also served as Building Administration of the Grand Lodge.

Other prominent members of Noli Me Tangere Lodge were as follows: WB Menandang Piang of Cotabato was a representative during the 1935 Constitutional Convention. WB Primitivo Lovina was a Congressman in the Pre-War Congress. VW Amante Alconcel was a Justice of the Sangdiganbayan. VW Jesus Guerrero was an Ombudsman of MW Jose L. Araneta was the Grand Master of the Philippines in 1976. VW Bernardino

L. Cabiles was President of the Prosecutors League of the Philippines. VW Manuel G. Lagonera and Brother Romeo N. Salen as Medico Legal of the Philippine National Police (PNP). Brother Samuel M. Salvador as President of Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), and Brother Cezar Augustus as Vice President. VW Waldemar V. Valmores as Civil Service Commissioner. WB Jose Ang Dy Pay as Treasurer of the Lodge for several years at the age of 80 years old. WB Ruben V. Reyes and WM Diosdado B. Kibir Jr., who both served as Worshipful Master for more than a year, have preserved the existence of the Lodge.

The decade of the 1980s was the

reconstruction period of the Lodge by then Senior Warden Rene C. Damian. In the late 1980s, during the term of WB Francisco M. Lovero and WB Alexander B. Dairocas, the lodge recovered its lost glory as a great Lodge. Honorable Salvador H. Laurel, then Vice President of the Philippines, was the guest of honor and speaker in Noli me Tangere Lodge's installation of officers.

In the 1990's, the brethren improved their Lodge's financial condition, increased its projects, strengthened its sisterhood with Taga-Ilog Lodge No. 79, and chose, as Honorary Members, worthy and exemplary brethren belonging to other Lodges. The following Worshipful Masters endeavored



most earnestly to lead the brethren in taking their Lodge to greater heights of achievement: WB Virgilio S. David, 1990; WB Angelito L. Martinez, 1991; WB Renato S. Ang, 1992; WB Emmanuel S. Medina, 1993; WB Robert O. Asuncion, 1994; WB Danilo C. Angeles, 1995; WB Jaime R. Bacho, 1996; WB Nestor A. Carreon, 1997; WB Jesus Flor R. Nicolas, 1998; WB Bernardino L. Cables, 1999.

In the 2000's, the following Worshipful Masters strove very hard to make Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 stronger and more vigorous through palpable strategic planning and periodic caucuses: WB Emeritus P. Aviles, 2000; WB Virgilio T. Mauricio, 2001; WB Manuel G. Lagonera, 2002; WB Charito C. Mabitazan, 2003; WB Firmo S. Esguerra, 2004; WB Tomas O. Testor, 2005; WB ArnellInocencio D. Cantos, 2006; WB Rodolfo L. Tan, 2007; WB Nelson S. Milo, 2008; WB Eduardo S. Puno, 2009.

Lodge officers continued to be actively involved in the affairs of both Masonic District No. 7 (now MD NCR-D) and the Grand Lodge. In the NCR Multi-District Convention held at the Grand Lodge in 2002, Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 played the role of lead Lodge, with VW Robert O. Asuncion serving as DDGM of Masonic District No. 7 and eventually winning the coveted Outstanding DDGM Award.

In 2003, MW Reynaldo S. Fajardo, PGM, GMH, was elected by the brethren as Honorary Past Master of the Lodge. Later, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales was also elected as Honorary Past Master.

The 2003 ANCOM in Manila became

doubly memorable because, through the initiative of certain brethren, led by VW Rene C. Damian, PDDGM, and with the active assistance of MW Reynaldo S. Fajardo, PGM, GMH, who was then Grand Secretary, Lodge Noli Me Tangere regained its original number "42". The Lodge celebrated its 86th founding anniversary a la barrio fiesta at Grand Lodge premises, with the Pangkat Kawayan and Bagong Himig of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) helping make the event memorable with their music. A time capsule was also prepared for the occasion to be open for the coming 100 years anniversary.

On January 10, 2007, MW Romeo A. Yu, PGM, solemnly installed the officers of the Lodge, led by MW Rodolfo L. Tan at the Jose Abad Santos Hall of the Plaridel Masonic Temple. VW Robert O. Asuncion, Junior Grand Lecturer for the NCR, served as the Master of Ceremonies and VW Jesus Flor R. Nicolas, Grand Historian, as Asst. Master of Ceremonies, respectively.

Like VW Hilario G. Esguerra, VW Jesus Flor R. Nicolas and VW Robert O. Asuncion became Senior Grand Lecturers, and VW Samuel P. Fernandez served as Grand Chaplain and then as Grand Historian. An Honorary Member of the Lodge, VW Rolando F. Rocha, also served as Senior Grand Lecturer.

On the initiative of its principal officers, Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 secured an office on the 4th floor of the Plaridel Masonic Temple. The office was blessed and its marker was unveiled on February 3, 2007. During this year, WB Rodolfo L. Tan and other leading members of the Lodge spearheaded the formation of the Rizal

Lodges League.

In 2010 and 2011, the Lodge experienced “rough sailing”. During this period, Brother Roland S. Mabale and Brother Nestor L. Andaliza, respectively, served as Acting Masters, who both tried their best to take the bark of the Lodge safely to its destination, so to speak. Brother Nestor L. Andaliza led the brethren in improving the financial condition of the Lodge, and once more, the Lodge grew both in number and strength. Because of Brother Andaliza’s dedication, he was elected by the brethren as their Worshipful Master for Masonic year 2012. Under his leadership, the Lodge attracted new members of the character, who subsequently proved themselves proficient in ritualistic and ceremonial work and got themselves actively involved in Lodge projects.

In 2013, under the dynamic leadership of WM Leonard L. Lu, the Lodge further improved its financial condition through the Souvenir Program launched that year, and its conferral team waxed more proficient than before. More young men of dignity were added to its membership.

In the same year, VW Rodolfo L. Tan and VW Samson G. Ching, a Past Master and dual member of the Lodge respectively, served as MD NCR-D Grand Lecturers. VW Jesus Flor R. Nicolas continued to serve as Editor-in-Chief of “The Cabletow”, VW Samuel P. Fernandez as Dean and History Department Head of the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (IMES), and VW Robert O. Asuncion and VW Rolando F. Rocha, as IMES Lecturers. From 2010 to 2014, the following brethren served Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 148 as

Worshipful Masters: Bro Roland S. Mabale (Acting), 2010; Bro Nestor L. Andaliza (Acting), 2011; WB Nestor L. Andaliza, 2012; WB Leonard L. Lu, 2013; WB Alfredo B. Opriasa, 2014.

For the succeeding years, the young and dynamic officers of the Lodge became very active again in Lodge projects and District’s activities. Fraternal bonds were strengthened with more fellowship activities. The aim of the officers was to regain the glory of the past, where true and genuine brotherhood exists. The following were the Worshipful Masters who continued to thrive and produce worthy Master Masons who, in one way or the other, have contributed to the betterment of the fraternity in general: WB Mark Francis D. Crisostomo, 2015;

WB Erickson A. Flores, 2016; WB Domingo B. Sumayo, Jr., 2017.

In 2015, WM Mark Francis D. Crisostomo proposed to improve the logo of the Lodge making it more fresh and vibrant. The new logo was voted upon by the brethren and approved in the Lodge. On that same year, VW Emeritus P. Aviles was awarded the Outstanding District Grand Lecturer, and likewise, WB Jose D. Ramos, an Honorary member of the Lodge, received the Outstanding Grand Lodge Inspector award.

On August 20, 2016, through the initiative of the three main officers led by WM Erickson A. Flores, assisted by Domingo B. Sumayo Jr. and Rogelio R. Uy, Jr, as Senior and Junior Wardens, respectively, made the latest renovation and improvement of the office of Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 located at the 4th floor of Plaridel Masonic Temple. Also a

marker was unveiled in commemoration of the grant to the Lodge of a Dispensation and in grateful tribute to the in 2016, for the first time, the Lodge gave the Hiram Award, which is the highest award to be given to a Master Mason, to the following brethren who gave honor to the fraternity and have consistently demonstrated the true Mason with exemplary character: VR Samuel P. Fernandez, VW Jesus Flor R. Nicolas, and VW Emeritus P. Aviles.

On August 20, 2016, the Lodge gave its 1st Golden Apron Award to VR Samuel P. Fernandez, for diligently serving this noble craft for over 50 years as a Master Mason. The award was given during the 99th Institution event and the Lodge's Past Masters' night.

On August 12, 2017, the Lodge celebrated the Centennial Institution Anniversary by kicking-off with a wreath-laying ceremony at Paco Park, where our national hero and a fellow Brother Mason, Dr. Jose P. Rizal's body was laid after his public execution in December 1896. After which, the brethren had a motorcade led by the Widows Sons Masonic Riders group around Manila area and ended up at Plaridel Masonic Temple. At GLP grounds, balloons were released, and prayers were offered for all departed members.

On that same night, the Lodge recognized all its Past Masters and gave Hiram Award to WB Diosdado B. Kibir Jr. and VW ArnellInocencio D. Cantos. Moreover, the new approved centennial logo of the Lodge was presented in preparation for the upcoming Centennial Constitution Anniversary on March 2018. Likewise, the lodge's Hymn was publicly sung entitled

"SintangLohiya, Noli Me Tangere, Dakila Ka", which was written by the lodge's very own WB Tomas O. Testor, arranged by Brother Rossini I. Calabig, and interpreted by the PUP Bagong HimigSerenata.

On August 19, 2017, WM Domingo B. Sumayo Jr. led the members of the Lodge in conducting flag and wreath laying ceremonies at GLP grounds in commemoration of the 139th Birthday of President Manuel Luis M. Quezon, the Grand Master in 1918 who granted the Lodge its Charter and constituted in solemn ceremonies.

On December 2, 2017, the members of the Lodge elected their officers for the ensuing Centennial year with Brother Rogelio R. Uy, Jr. as Master, Brother Mel Deo H. Abad as Senior Warden, and Brother Leonard R. Subiela as Junior Warden. In 2018 ILL. Roberto O. Asuncion was installed Venerable Master of Luzon Bodies and VR Samuel P. Fernandez was appointed again as Editor in Chief of the Cabletow Magazine.

In fine, Noli Me Tangere Lodge today is vibrantly alive. With its regained strength and vigor through the Lodge's young and competent set of officers, everyone can proudly say that Noli Me Tangere Lodge No. 42 is back and is ready to take off to greater heights of achievements as it approaches the 100th year founding anniversary celebration on March 18, 2018.

"When a Filipino wants anything, the first requirement he make is that thing be strong; the Filipino style should therefore be 'Mabuhay' above anything else."

-Jose Rizal



Jose Rizal

JOSE RIZAL,

MARTYR AND MASTER MASON

By Michael Goldenberg, P.G.M.
Knight Grand Officer of Rizal (KGOR)

Contemporaries of Dr. Jose Rizal, friends and foes alike, recognized in him a man of rare intellect. After his tragic death, he loomed as an avenging figure, for the facts of his life brought to light by heightened interest in his martyrdom, reveal not only a man of brilliant parts and unassailable integrity but a patriot of the noblest and purest order.

And yet, strange as it may seem, Rizal today is unknown to many of his countrymen, while others have only the vaguest notion of his true greatness. To this day he has enemies in secret who, for understandable reasons, are not satisfied in having put an end to his mortal life and, like ruffians, buying his body in an obscure grave. Today his ideals still continue to face the firing squads of fanatical obscurantism encouraged and aided by the submissiveness of some Filipinos for personal gain, influence and comfort.

I sincerely believe that citizens of this country in particular should make it a point to read the unexpurgated editions of Rizal's

novels and his other writings, together with Bro. Rafael Palma's prize-winning biography of the National Hero so that they may fully appreciate his labors for the country he loved so well and imbibe some of that indomitable spirit of his which regarded death with disdain in his supreme desire and efforts to free his people with the light of TRUTH from intellectual enslavement.

This article attempts to portray not only the person and character of Rizal but also the troublous background that projected his figure into history as a man of superior mold.

Historical Background

In 1872, when the three martyred priest Burgos, Gomez and Zamora were executed Rizal was only eleven years old. This brutal act deeply impressed him. It made him resolve to study harder and prepare himself as leader and spokesman of his people. This took him to Spain and elsewhere in Europe where he finished his studies with

the highest honors.

The Religious Orders were the principal owners of the best and largest agricultural lands and other enterprises in the Philippines. They were all pledged as mendicant missionaries, but with the aid of the government, they soon occupied the positions of parochial curates and controlled public officials, against Church laws. This monopoly made them powerful. The native priests were antagonized and discriminated against, which irritated the Filipinos and caused the re-awakening of their nationalistic spirit. When the three innocent Filipino priest were garroted under false charges of rebellion, the hurt deepened and spread to all classes, rich and poor alike. But the years passed and the Filipinos did not have anyone strong enough to defend them from the abuses and unequal treatment they suffered. However, it was their hope that someday, someone would appear on the horizon to free them from this oppression. Meanwhile conditions grew steadily worse. Anyone who dared to ask for reforms or better treatment was immediately labeled a "Filibustero". A native was never allowed to be more than an "indio." Everything came under censorship, the books and the press in particular, and education was controlled.

At last, there appeared on the horizon, in the person of Brother Jose Rizal, the Mason, an honest, courageous and intellectual leader the people had longed waited for His leadership was recognized by the Filipinos here and abroad. By his intellectual attainments, Rizal demonstrated the great capability of the Filipinos for any endeavor. His numerous lectures and speeches within Masonic Lodges and his articles in the "La Solidaridad" in Madrid were all literary

masterpieces. They were distillations of his intense love for his Fatherland and his solicitude for the welfare of his fellow countrymen.

In fairness to the Friars, we should recognize the great good they did after they arrived in the early years of Spanish conquest and occupation. Their personal sacrifices and hardships were highly commendable as they strived zealously to accomplish their mission. Because of them, this nation is now over 90% Christians. The magnificent work of the Catholic Missionaries in unifying the entire under the banner of Spain was unprecedented in colonial history anywhere. The people became so devout that they trusted these missionaries more than they did the government itself.

However, when Spain was involved in the Napoleonic wars, the Religious Orders began to change. They took advantage of the situation to take over the powers of the government and thereafter became the real rulers with great influence and backing in the homeland. Their original attitude and concept of their mission changed, and in most cases, they became extremely materialistic.

Rampant abuses under the tyrannical regime grew from bad to worse. The people, suffered, but fear of reprisals kept them from protesting. Rizal and his friends in Spain, particularly Marcelo H. del Pilar, soon enlisted liberal Spaniards under the very influential Professor Miguel Morayta, who was also the Grand Master of Masons and the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Spain. It was he also who founded the Sociedad Hispano-Filipino in order to bring to the attention of the Spanish government the gross

misrule in their country. Their task proved to be hopeless however, for the control and influence of the Religious Orders were strong even in the Spanish homeland.

It was at this time that Rizal decided to expose the abuses in the Philippines by writing his first novel, the “Noli Me Tangere”, which was printed in Berlin in 1887. He then copied and annotated the book “Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas” written by Governor Antonio de Morga in 1607 and published by Rizal in Paris in 1890. The last book he wrote was the “El Filibusterismo”, printed in Ghent, Belgium, in 1891. Most of the copies of this book were confiscated and destroyed. However, many copies of the “Noli” and the “Morga” books were distributed in the Philippines. These books aroused the feelings of his countrymen because they brought into sharp focus with painful realism their unbearable life.

Freedom of thought and speech and of the press did exist in Spain but not in the Philippines. Proper Spanish education for the masses was not made available and only the rich were able to send their children to the only university in Manila.

Elementary Spanish and the various dialects were taught exclusively by or under control of the Religious Orders. The Filipinos were kept apart from each other by fostering the teaching of the different dialects more than the Spanish, particularly in the provinces. As a result, they were not united and many did not understand each other. They were truly regional and knew very little about their neighbors. The policy was “divide and rule”.

Masonry in the Philippines on the other hand worked for enlightenment and unification and advocated Liberty, Equality and Fraternity for all. For this Masons were immediately condemned and persecuted. Many went to their death for belonging to the Fraternity. It was thru his membership in Masonry that enabled Rizal to contact and associate himself with intellectual and liberal thinking men of all nationalities and creeds imbued with the teachings and principles of this great and honorable institution. His many discourses on Masonry and his love for the Fraternity clearly show his unswerving loyalty and devotion to it and to all that it stands for.

After many Filipinos had joined Freemasonry in Spain, it was decided by Brothers Rizal and Marcelo H. del Pilar, the first Filipino to receive the 33o, to bring Universal Masonry to the Filipinos, as this would be a great force to bring the intellectual class into a united effort for the progress and benefit of the country. Educated and patriotic Filipinos flocked into Masonry and lodges were rapidly organized all over the Philippines under the Grand Oriente Español of which the Honorable Miguel Morayta was the Grand Master. Liberal Spaniards and foreigners also joined these lodges. The unification of the leading Filipinos of patriotic and moral character through their Masonic membership was soon to be reflected in their thinking and new way of life. Among them were those who are now recognized as the country's leading heroes and patriots.

Rizal never advocated independence or separation from Spain. He merely sought more freedom for his people and the elimination of discriminations and abuses

against them. He insisted that his people improve themselves through education and hard work. Above all, he fought for the dignity of the individual Filipino and his equality with the Spaniard before the law.

Against the advice of his friends, Rizal came back to the Philippines in August, 1887. They feared that he would be seriously harmed because of his novel "Noli Me Tangere" many copies of which were already distributed and the possession of which was prohibited by the government. After staying about five months, he was advised by Governor General Terrero to leave the Islands for his safety and that of his family. It is only fair to state that there were several leading Spaniards at the time like Terrero who were against harsh treatment of the Filipinos, but they had no influence whatever.

Rizal agreed and departed for Hong Kong early in February, 1888, on his way back to Europe via Japan and the United States. He stayed in Europe until 1891 when he again left for Hong Kong and established his clinic there.

Rizal stayed in Hong Kong for a little more time in order to perfect and print the by-laws of the "Liga Filipina" which he desired to organize in order to unite the Filipinos for commercial purposes and mutual security. He then asked permission from Governor General Despujol to allow him to return to Manila unmolested and this was granted. He arrived in Manila on the 22nd of June, 1892, together with one of his sisters.

On July 7th Despujol changed his attitude towards Rizal. He had Rizal arrested and charged with having brought with him printed matter entitled "Poor Friars" which

was a satire against the friars. Rizal denied the charge and claimed that the pamphlets were planted in his sister's baggage. Without any further investigation, Rizal was sent to Fort Santiago and imprisoned there until he was deported to Dapitan on July 15, 1892 here he remained for four years, completely isolating himself from any political activities but was active as a physician, teacher, engineer and farmer. He used his talent for the benefit and improvement of living conditions in the town.

In Dapitan, Rizal was visited in March 1894, by Mr. Taufer and his 18-year old adopted daughter, Josephine Bracken, because of Rizal's fame as an eye specialist. Having fallen in love with Josephine, Rizal asked Traufer for her hand which the old man refused. They left for Manila and Traufer returned to Hong Kong alone as Josephine was also in love with Rizal and returned to Dapitan to marry the handsome doctor. The priest there refused to marry them unless Rizal retracted all that he had said and written and renounced his Masonic membership. Rizal refused to do these and thereafter he and Josephine lived as man and wife.

The people all over the country were beginning to be restless and an emissary in the person of Dr. Valenzuela was sent by Andres Bonifacio to Rizal to enlist him in the revolutionary movement. Rizal did not only refuse to join the movement but expressed his opposition to it. In order to do away with suspicions that he was connected with the uprising, Rizal volunteered to serve as a doctor with the Spanish army then fighting in Cuba. His offer was accepted by the Spanish government and thereafter he departed for Manila. He arrived here on the

6th of August, 1896, too late to take the Spanish mail steamer which departed earlier for Spain. By order of the Captain General, he remained aboard the Spanish cruiser "Castilla" which was anchored off Cavite, until he departed on the 3rd of September 1896 on board the next mail steamer "Isla de Panay" for Spain.

The revolution was then in full swing in Cavite province and the Katipunan inflicted heavy casualties on the Spanish garrison there. When the steamer reached Singapore, Pedro P. Roxas, founder of the San Miguel Brewery, a fellow passenger who also was suspected to be a "Filibustero" but truly as innocent as was Rizal, disembarked and remained there for safety. Friends of Rizal headed by Brother Manuel Camus, P.G.M., pleaded with him to do likewise, but he refused, because if he did so, he said, he would be considered guilty of any charges the Spaniards might raise against him.

After his departure, the captain of the ship received telegraphic instructions at Port said to put Rizal under arrest and keep him guarded in his cabin until his arrival in Barcelona. He was then imprisoned in the Castle and Fortress of Montjuich until the departure of the next mail steamer "Colon" for Manila, which brought Rizal back on the 3rd of November, 1896. He was immediately taken to the dreaded Fort Santiago where he was kept a prisoner until he was executed by a firing squad on the Luneta on December 30, 1896.

The trial of Dr. Rizal was held in the old Cuartel de España by a Military Court. It was a mock trial held only as a matter of formality. Before the trial, Rizal voluntarily wrote an appeal to his countrymen to lay down their arms and advised them that

it was futile to resort to violence, and to accomplish their aims through peaceful means. But his making the appeal did not help as the Spaniards did not want to save him. On the contrary, they used and interpreted his appeal against him.

A Doubtful Document

The alleged retraction of Brother Rizal has always been a controversial issue, more so because of the appearance of the document 38 years after his execution. Why did they keep it this long? Can we believe that such an important document would have been misplaced as it is now claimed to have been? It was claimed that the retraction had been signed by Brother Rizal on the night before he died. They had 57 days to work on Dr. Rizal's mind, yet they did not do so, but rather supposedly chose the last few hours before the execution. This time element of the signing of the alleged retraction does not seem logical unless it is to prove that they already knew that it was useless to try to convince Rizal. Besides to try to convince Rizal. Besides, they would still have Rizal himself to refuse any such announcement while he was alive. They were certain, or at least expected, that he would soon be liquidated. Can we believe that they wasted 56 days of Brother Rizal's last days since his return from Spain under arrest, and gave themselves only a few of Rizal's last hour in life to successfully (?) extract from a man of strong character and great intellect the alleged retraction? There is no doubt in the minds of many Masons that Archbishop Nozaleda and his accomplices worded the alleged retraction which they wanted to appear our good brother Jose

Rizal wrote and signed. The alleged retraction is ingeniously and very cleverly worded to obliterate Brother Rizal and all of his writings and every bit of him, besides all that may be left of him. The Religious Orders were of course extremely interested in disproving the very bad situation for them depicted by Brother Rizal in his famous novels. The novels therefore were their main objective. Brother Rizal's Masonic membership, compared to his books and writings, were of less importance.

Let us study and analyze the alleged retraction particularly the wordings of that document which translated into English reads as follows:

"I declare myself a Catholic and in this religion, in which I was born and educated, I wish to live and die. I retract with all my heart anything in my words, writings, publications and conduct that has been contrary to my character as a son of the Church. I believe and profess what it teaches, and I submit to what it demands. I abominate Masonry as the enemy that it is of the Church and as a society prohibited by the same.

The Diocesan Prelate, as the superior ecclesiastical authority, may make this spontaneous manifestation of mine public in order to repair any scandal which my acts may have caused, and in order that God and men may forgive me."

Rizal is here represented to have said that

he "abominated" Masonry. This is truly unbelievable and ridiculous for Rizal is being made to appear that he more than hated the organization which he loved and respected and of which he was happy and proud to be one of the most prominent members. If the wording of the retraction was not so one-sided in favor of the Church and made Rizal appear he acknowledged that he was guilty and asked forgiveness, thereby presenting him as a weak puppet who lost his former dignity and importance as a crusader, there would be no doubt that they preferred to discredit Rizal's writings and the conditions he exposed in his famous novels. But his enemies considered it "scandalous" for any native to have the courage to expose them, so they inserted in the alleged retraction the phrase to show that Rizal was guilty of committing "scandalous" acts. Why should Rizal call his acts a "scandal" and ask God and men to forgive him? The real "scandal" were the abuses from which the Filipinos were suffering and assuredly not the exposure of them. Even in the face of death, he never considered himself guilty of anything that demanded forgiveness. What was there to forgive, especially by those who were about to take his precious life?

It is surprising to note that the two priests who were supposed to have conquered Rizal's will-power and announced that they had successfully extracted an alleged retraction, did NOT themselves sign as witnesses. Why did they not sign that retraction when they could have glorified themselves in the eyes of the Church for the achievement and perpetuated their names forever in such an important document? They did not do so because that document would have to be written by someone else in Rizal's simulated

handwriting much later and did not exist at the time. It is alleged that they called in some of the soldiers guarding the Fort to sign as witnesses when they could have done to themselves. They did not sign simply because there was nothing to sign.

The “threat of damnation”, because there is no salvation outside the Catholic Church, according to Fr. Balaguer and other Jesuits, weakened Rizal. Did they expect Brother Rizal to believe that God loved only those who belong to their Church to the exclusion of His more numerous children who also serve and worship Him? It is also alleged that when Rizal was shown his own small carving of the image of the Sacred Heart, he became restless and cried and asked the Fathers to hear his confession; but that the Father told him that before he could confess it would first be necessary for him to make a retraction to which he readily agreed. Is not this the portrait of a perfect weakling? Thereafter, it is also claimed, he promised to be a good Catholic and a son of the Church *for the rest of his life*. How long did he expect to live after that? Can we be made to believe that Rizal was so childish as that in the last hours of his life? I will quote Retana’s “Vida y Escritos del Dr. Jose Rizal” on page 141; “When Rizal visited for the last time the Ateneo, the Brother Porter showed him the small image of the Sacred Heart which Rizal carved as a boy, Rizal said: ‘Other times, Brother, other times, that have passed; because now I do not believe in those things.’”

I believe everyone will agree that Rizal was not the type who could be so easily made to undo anything for which he had worked so hard, and even went so far as to risk his own life, to accomplish. Rizal was fully aware

of all the consequences of his actions and anticipated reprisals, even death which he was prepared to welcome to crown his labor and sacrifices, this is forcibly impressed upon us by his “Ultimo Adios” and the two sealed letters he wrote in Hongkong on June 2, 1892, one to his family, and the other to his countrymen with specific instructions that they be opened *after his death*. He refused to be intimidated by warnings against his return to the Philippines where he was sure persecution *and possibly death* awaited him because *he had faith in the righteousness of his cause*.

Death held no terror for him. He even looked to it as a necessity for the completion and consummation of his life’s mission. Knowing him to possess such strong convictions, how can we believe that in the end, a few hours of coaxing could make him completely renounce his belief and convictions, undo his toils of a life time and, as the defenders of the alleged retraction picture him, cringe with fear of purgatory in which he did not, and could not be made to believe by the learned Father Pastells? Furthermore, the retraction is alleged to have been extracted by two ordinary priests who were admittedly inferior to Brother Rizal’s intellectual power!

Could Rizal have cravenly betrayed his countrymen who idolized him, by shamelessly saying in the end, that is, if the alleged retraction is genuine, that all that he had said and written as their defender against an institution that was behind all the miseries that his family and people had been suffering, were not true?

To believe the alleged retraction is to believe that Rizal was successfully intimidated to violate his oath as a Mason,

spurned his real friends and Brothers and embraced those who were behind all the misfortunes heaped upon him his family and his people.

Our ancient and honorable Masonic Institution is not a sect of any kind, nor is it antagonistic to any religion, particularly the Catholic Church. We have no quarrel with any known church. We are non-sectarian and non-political.

Our Fraternity is based on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. We respect each member's religious belief, but one must believe in God and a future existence to become a member. We have been continuously provoked by only one Church, the Roman Catholic Church, but for the most part we have patiently ignored their attacks. We are for the separation of Church and State – for the church to continue its activities to matters of religion and allow matters of State to be the exclusive concern of duly constituted authorities.

The alleged retraction might be considered as a virtual admission of guilt of whatever Rizal had been charged with. This is another reason why Rizal would never sign such a document against himself *because to the bitter end he maintained his innocence*. Not satisfied with his lawyer's arguments, he himself wrote a forceful defense before the Council of War that tried him.

The powers of the Church at the time were considered far above and over the State, but it is surprising that it did not save him if it is true that Rizal did return to it. Besides, the style and wording of the text itself cast great doubt that Rizal wrote

such a document. Any one familiar with his writing will easily detect the vast difference.

Rizal was not buried in a sacred ground for Catholics but in a place for rogues or impenitents, nor were any masses said by the Jesuits who promised his family to do so after his death. Even the wooden marker on Brother Rizal's grave was secretly marked "R.P.J." Why was this done and who were they trying to deceive? Furthermore, if Rizal had retracted everything he had said, written and done that was derogatory to the Church, and also from his membership in the Masonic order, there would hardly be anything left for which he should be remembered.

That early morning of the 30th of December 1896, before he was taken under guard to the Luneta to be executed, he was visited for the last time by a sister, Narcisa, and Josephine. Before leaving, Rizal asked the priests to allow him to give to his sister his alcohol lamp as a souvenir, to which they agreed. While handing it to his sister, he whispered to her that there was something important in it.

If he had returned as a child of the Church as the alleged retraction would depict, why did he not trust the priest and ask them to publish his "Last Farewell"? Why did he have to hide it from them in the lamp? No, he did not trust them; he preferred to give it to trustful hands and not to those whom he knew wanted to see him destroyed. It is also claimed that Rizal and Josephine were married in Fort Santiago that early morning before he was executed. Rizal's sister denied this and nobody could produce up to this date the marriage certificate to prove this allegation.

The Mason of the Philippines will

Constitution Of BLUE LODGES

MAY 1, 1922 - **Acacia Lodge No. 78** was constituted by PGM Edwin E. Elser, Acting as Grand Master, at Iloilo, Iloilo.

MAY 5, 1917 - **Maguindanao Lodge No. 40** was formally constituted in Cagayan de Misamis in line with the charter granted the previous March 15. The ceremonies were presided over by Juan RoaValdeconcha who acted as Grand Master.

MAY 7, 1935 - **Maranaw Lodge No. 111** was officially constituted by M.W. Samuel R. Hawthorne at Dansalan, Lanao. Immediately thereafter the officers were installed publicly at the Golf Club by the Grand Master. About 200 persons attended.

MAY 7, 1958 - **Rising Sun Lodge No. 151** under the Grand Lodge of the Philippines was constituted in Japan.

MAY 8, 1961 - **Dagupan City Lodge No. 158**, was constituted by Grand Master Juan S. Alano at Dagupan City.

MAY 10, 1974 - **Andres Bonifacio Lodge No. 199** was constituted by Grand Master John O. Wallace at the Victory Motors building in Caloocan City

MAY 11, 1991 - **Kapitan Pepe Lodge No. 294** was constituted in Nueva Ecija.

MAY 13, 1922 - **Makiling Lodge No. 72** was constituted at the Rizal Memorial School Building in Calamba, Laguna by Grand Master Quintin Paredes.

MAY 13, 1937 - **Szechwan Lodge No. 112** was constituted in Chengtu, China.

MAY 15, 1920 - MW Rafael Palma constituted **Pinatubo Lodge No. 52** in private ceremonies held in San Antonio, Zambales. The steamer carrying the Grand Lodge Officers had a breakdown en route and was 15 hours making the run from Manila to the port of Subic. The hardship notwithstanding all had an enjoyable time.

MAY 17, 1980 - **Red Mountain Lodge No. 241** was constituted at Tandag, Surigao del Sur.

MAY 18, 1914 - **Bagumbayan Lodge No. 354** was chartered by the Grand Oriente Español. It was constituted the following August.

MAY 18, 1957 - **Rafael Palma Lodge No. 147** was constituted at the Plaridel Masonic Temple by Grand Master Vicente Orosa.

MAY 18, 1963 - **General Llanera Lodge No. 168** was constituted at Gapan, Nueva Ecija by MW Pedro Gimenez.

MAY 20, 1921 - MW Edwin E. Elser formally constituted **Tupas Lodge No. 62** in public ceremonies held at the Lodge Hall in Cebu City.

MAY 20, 1961 - **Lingayen Lodge No. 161** was constituted at Lingayen, Pangasinan by RW William H. Quasha.

MAY 25, 1932 - **Camarines Norte Lodge No. 107**, was constituted by a team of Grand Lodge officers led by Grand Master Antonio Gonzalez at the Constabulary Building in Daet, Camarines Norte.

MAY 26, 1917 - **Mabini Lodge No. 39**, was formally constituted in Aparri, Cagayan Bro. Robert S. Mac Dougall acted as Grand Master for the occasion.

MAY 27, 1961 - **Anchor Lodge No. 159**, was constituted by RW Pedro Gimenez at Moncada, Tarlac.

May 27, 1981 - **Bayawan Lodge No. 248**, was constituted by Grand Master Simeon Rene Lacson at Bayawan, Negros Occidental.

May 27, 1988 - **Dalusan Lodge No. 281** was constituted at Victorias, Negros Occidental by Grand Master Raymundo N. Beltran.

May 29, 1959 - **Pagadian Lodge No. 153**, was constituted by Grand Master Macario Ofilada at Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur.

MAY 30, 1981 - **Tamauni Lodge No. 251**, was constituted at Tamauni, Isabela by Grand Master Simeon Rene Lacson.

MAY 30, 1987 - **Kaduh Lodge No. 278**, was constituted in General Santos City by MW Teodorico V. Baldonado.

MAY 31, 1919 - **Makabugwas Lodge No. 47**, was constituted in public ceremonies held at the Assembly Room of the High School in Tacloban

by Grand Master Milton E. Springer. About 400 persons were present.

JUNE 1, 1929 - **Leonard Wood Lodge No. 105**, was constituted by Grand Master Seldon W. O'Brien at Fort Stotsenburg, Pampanga.

JUNE 2, 1921 - MW Edwin E. Elser formally constituted **Mayon Lodge No. 61** in private ceremonies held in Albay, Albay.

JUNE 2, 1962 - **Salinas Lodge No. 163**, was constituted at Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya by Grand Master William Quasha.

JUNE 2, 1967 - **Mac Arthur Lodge No. 183**, was constituted in Seoul, Korea by Grand Master Mariano Q. Tinio.

JUNE 3, 1954 - **Nippon Lodge No. 138** and the **District Grand Lodge for Japan** were constituted by MW Werner Schetelig.

JUNE 4, 1983 - **Molave Lodge No. 261**, was constituted at Lupao, Nueva Ecija by Grand Master Rosendo Herrera.

JUNE 5, 1894 - **Pilar Lodge No. 203** and **Integridad Española Lodge No. 212** were granted their respective charters by the Gran Oriente Español.

JUNE 7, 1986 - **Mandaluyong Lodge No. 277**, was constituted by Grand Master Reynold S. Fajardo in Quezon City

JUNE 8, 1908 - **Araw Lodge No. 304**, was provisionally installed in the house of Isidoro Hernandez in Arlegui St., by Estanislao Vergara, Eugenio Ocampo, Narciso Vergara, Juan S. Hernandez and others. It worked under the jurisdiction of the Gran Oriente Español.

Araw Lodge was officially constituted on November 8, 1908.

JUNE 9, 1984 - **Manuel L. Quezon Memorial Lodge No. 262** was constituted at Baler, Quezon.

JUNE 10, 1978 - **Bantugan Lodge No. 223**, was constituted at Cotabato City by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay, Sr.

JUNE 10, 1988 - **Pagkakaisa Lodge No. 282** was constituted at Las Piñas, Metro Manila by Grand Master Raymundo N. Beltran.

JUNE 11, 1926 - **Mount Huraw Lodge No. 98**, was constituted by Grand Master Francisco A. Delgado at the Samar High School Auditorium in Catbalogan, Samar.

JUNE 11, 1952 - **Toril Lodge No. 132**, was constituted at Nagoya, Japan by PGM Michael Goldenberg, acting as Grand Master.

JUNE 11, 1960 - **Mindoro Lodge No. 157**, was constituted at San Jose, Occidental Mindoro.

JUNE 12, 1924 - Pio V. Corpus, acting as Grand Master, constituted **Ma-Bu-Ti Lodge No. 92** in a private residence in Masbate. About 60 masons and 500 citizens of the province, including the Governor, attended.

JUNE 12, 1989 - **Kagitingan Lodge No. 286**, was constituted in Makati by Grand Master Juan C. Nabong, Jr.

JUNE 13, 1915 - **Magdalo Lodge No. 371** was constituted in Kawit, Cavite with Emilio Aguinaldo as Master. Some 300 Brethren representing several Grand Jurisdictions and Blue Lodges, including Manuel Quezon, Teodoro M. Kalaw, Rafael Palma, and Felipe Buencamino, Jr. attended.

JUNE 14, 1913 - **Pinagsabitan Lodge No. 344** under the Gran OrienteEspañol was constituted at Sta Cruz, Laguna.

JUNE 15, 1979 - **Calinog Lodge No. 226**, was constituted at Calinog, Iloilo.

JUNE 16, 1963 - **Dipolog Lodge No. 162**, was constituted by Grand Master William Quasha in the town of Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte.

JUNE 16, 1977 - **Salug Valley Lodge No. 2016**, was constituted at Molave, Zamboanga del Sur by RW Manuel Mandac, acting as Grand Master.

JUNE 16, 1978 - **Bugo de Oro Lodge No. 220**, was constituted at Cagayan de Oro City by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay, Sr.

JUNE 16, 1979 - **Tigbuan Lodge No. 229**, was constituted at Tigbauan; Iloilo.

JUNE 16, 1984 - **Midsayap Masonic Lodge No. 267**, was constituted at the Southern Christian College, Midsayap, North Cotabato. On the same day Shariff Kabunsuan Lodge No. 266, was constituted at Cotabato City.

JUNE 16, 1990 - **Catanduanes Island Lodge No. 291**, was constituted in Virac, Catanduanes by Grand Master John L. Choa.

JUNE 17, 1962 - **Dagupan City Lodge 158**, was constituted at Dapugan City by Grand Master Macario Ofilada.

JUNE 17, 1978 - **Kapatagan Valley Lodge No. 222**, was constituted at Baroy, Lanao del Norte by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay, Sr.

JUNE 19, 1984 - **Dr. Jose P. Rizal (Calamba) Lodge No. 270**, was constituted at Calamba, Laguna at 2:00 P.M.. At 6:00 P.M. **La Naval Lodge No. 269**, was constituted at Cavite City.

JUNE 19, 1991 - **San Pedro Lodge No. 292**, was constituted in San Pedro, Laguna.

JUNE 21, 1968 - **San Carlos Lodge No. 186**, was solemnly constituted in San Carlos City by Grand Master Joseph E. Schon with the assistance of other Grand Lodge Officers.

JUNE 21, 1969 - **Mallig Plains Lodge No. 191**, was constituted in Roxas, Isabela by the Grand Lodge with MW Edgar L. Shepley acting as Grand Master.

JUNE 21, 1975 - **Pantabangan-Bogari Lodge No. 203**, was constituted at Rizal, Nueva Ecija by Grand Master Teodoro V. Kalaw, Jr.

JUNE 21, 1986 - **Talavera Lodge No. 273**, was constituted by Grand Master Reynold S. Fajardo in Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

JUNE 22, 1918 - **Tayabas Lodge No. 43**, was constituted by Grand Master Manuel L. Quezon at Tayabas, Tayabas.

JUNE 22, 1959 - **Manuel Roxas Lodge No. 152**, was constituted in Manila by Grand Master Macario Ofilada.

JUNE 22, 1963 - **General Tinio Lodge No. 167**, was constituted at Guimba, Nueva Ecija by Grand Master Pedro Gimenez.

JUNE 22, 1968 - **Kalantiao Lodge No. 187**, was formally constituted in Iloilo City by MW Joseph E. Schon.

JUNE 22, 1974 - **Digos Lodge No. 198**, was constituted at Digos, Davao del Norte by Grand Master John O. Wallace at 10:00 A.M. In the evening MW Wallace, constituted **DatuBago Lodge No. 197** at Davao City.

JUNE 22, 1979 - **Mt. Diwata Lodge No. 236**, was constituted in Surigao City.

JUNE 22, 1985 - **Marcelo H. del Pilar Lodge No. 272**, was solemnly constituted by RW Reynold S. Fajardo, acting as Grand Master, at Malolos, Bulacan.

JUNE 22, 1991 - **Antonio R. Lasam Memorial Lodge No. 290**, was constituted in San Antonio, Nueva Ecija.

JUNE 23, 1923 - **Dagohoy Lodge No. 84**, was constituted at the Provincial High School in Tagbilaran Bohol by Grand Master Frederic H. Stevens.

JUNE 23, 1956 - **Nueva Vizcaya Lodge No. 144**, was constituted by Grand Master Clinton F. Carlson.

JUNE 23, 1979 - **Dadiangas Lodge No. 225**, was constituted at Gen. Santos City.

JUNE 24, 1978 - **Timberland Lodge No. 219**, was constituted at San Francisco, Agusan del Sur by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay, Sr.

JUNE 24, 1977 - **Red Arrow Lodge No. 217**, was constituted at San Nicolas, Pangasinan by RW Manuel Mandac acting as Grand Master.

JUNE 24, 1988 - **Ipil Lodge No. 283** was constituted at Ipil, Zamboanga de Sur by Grand Master Raymundo N. Betran.

JUNE 26, 1916 - **Batangas Lodge No. 383** was officially admitted into the Federation of the Gran Oriente Español. It was constituted on January 7, 1917. One month later it transferred to the **Grand Lodge of the Philippine Island as Lodge No. 35**.

JUNE 26, 1920 - MW Rafael Palma constituted **Filipinas Lodge No. 54** in public ceremonies held at the Public School Building in Panaon, Unisan, Tayabas. Some 600 persons attended. Among the speakers was Sis. Rosario Villaruel who was dressed in the habiliments of a Mason.

JUNE 27, 1915 - **Lodge Martires del 96 No. 372** was formally constituted in Nagcarlan, Laguna by a committee of the Gran Logia Regional No. 2 headed by Roberto Moreno. Its first officers were WB Jose Lucido, SW Mariano Cabezas and Secretary Francisco Arjona.

JUNE 28, 1924 - MW Francisco A. Delgado, constituted **Mencius Lodge No. 93** in ceremonies held at the Masonic Temple, Escolta, Manila. The ceremonies were public and attendance was about 500 persons. Mencius is the first all Chinese Lodge in the Philippines and, perhaps,

in the whole world. As stated in the Cabletow issue of July 1924, "from its Master down to its newest initiate, each and every member is of the blood of Cathay".

JUNE 28, 1969 - **Saigon Lodge No. 188**, was constituted in Saigon by MW Manuel Crudo of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

JUNE 28, 1975 - **Tagum Lodge No. 204**, was constituted at Tagum, Davao by Grand Master Teodoro Kalaw, Jr. In the attention MW Kalaw motored to Toril Davao del Norte and constituted Toril Lodge No. 208

JUNE 28, 1986 - **Don Salvador P. Lopez Memorial Lodge No. 276**, was constituted in Mati, Davao Oriental by Grand Master Reynold S. Fajardo.

JUNE 29, 1991 - **Podomo Lodge No. 293** was constituted in Davao City.

JUNE 30, 1962 - **Lam-Ang Lodge No. 164**, was constituted by Grand Master William Quasha in San Esteban, Ilocos Sur.

JUNE 30, 1975 - **Iligan Lodge No. 207**, was constituted at Iligan City by Grand Master Teodoro Kalaw, Jr.

JUNE 30, 1979 - **Mt. Diwata Lodge No. 236**, was constituted in Surigao City by R.W. Manuel D. Mandac, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 1, 1967 - **Laong-Laan Lodge No. 185**, was constituted in Quezon City by Grand Master Mariano Q. Tinio.

JULY 1, 1972 - **Shangrila Lodge No. 196**, was constituted at Tagum, Davao by Grand Master William C. Councill.

JULY 2, 1927 - M.W. Joseph H. Schmidt constituted **Bataan Lodge No. 104** in public ceremonies held in the evening at the elementary school building of Limay, Bataan.

JULY 2, 1988 - **Ernesto Salas Memorial Lodge No. 280**, was constituted at the Community Center in Bago City.

JULY 4, 1952 - **Teodoro M. Kalaw Lodge**, U.D. was instituted by MW Sydney M. Austin. The institution of Lodges was a long neglected practice which MW Austin sought to revive.

JULY 4, 1983 - M.W. Rosendo Herrera, constituted **Molave Lodge No. 261** at Lanao, Nueva Ecija.

JULY 4, 1989 - **Kagitingan Lodge No. 286**, was constituted by Grand Master Juan C. Nabong, Jr. at the Jacobo Zobel Memorial Temple in Makati. Among the organizers of this Lodge are Maj. Gen. Restituto Padilla and Generals Epineto Logico, Temy Tadiar, and Jun Dumlao.

JULY 4, 1992 - **Camiquin Island Lodge No. 296** was constituted at Mambajao, Camiquin by Acting Grand Master Ernesto Malapaya. Immediately thereafter Bro. Rexel Pacuribot was installed as the first Master of the Lodge under Charter.

JULY 6, 1979 - **Lake Lanao Lodge No. 227**, was constituted in Marawi City.

JULY 9, 1924 - M.W. Francisco A. Delgado, formally constituted **Hagdang-Bato Lodge No. 87** in ceremonies held at the Masonic Temple, Escolta Manila.

JULY 9, 1966 - **Cauayan Lodge No. 180**, was constituted at Cauayan, Isabela by Grand Master Raymond E. Wilmarth.

JULY 10, 1965 - **Siete Martines Lodge No. 177**, was constituted at Balaoan, La Union by Grand Master Serafin Teves.

JULY 10, 1971 - **Mabini-Kalaw Lodge No. 195**, was constituted by M.W. Damaso C. Tria at Lipa City.

JULY 10, 1976 - **Northern Samar Lodge No. 211**, was constituted at Catarman, Samar by Grand Master Jose L. Araneta.

JULY 11, 1964 - **Kidapawan Lodge No. 170**, was constituted at Kidapawan, Cotabato by Grand Master Charles Mosebrook.

JULY 11, 1987 - **Ari-Tau Lodge No. 279**, was constituted in Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya by M.W. Teodorico V. Baldonado.

JULY 11, 1990 - **Bud Bongao Lodge No. 288** was constituted in TawiTawi.

JULY 12, 1975 - **Villaverde Lodge No. 206**, was constituted at Villaverde, Nueva Vizcaya by Grand Master Teodoro Kalaw, Jr.

JULY 12, 1986 - Grand Master Reynold S. Fajardo, constituted **Illana Bay Lodge No. 274** and Margosatubig Lodge No. 275 in Pagadian City.

JULY 14, 1984 - **Meridian Lodge No. 268**, was constituted at Balanga, Bataan.

JULY 15, 1967 - **Macajalar Lodge No. 184**, was constituted in Cagayan de Oro City by Grand Master Mariano Q. Tinio.

JULY 16, 1966 - **Rio Chico Lodge No. 182**, was constituted in Tabuk, Mt. province by Rt. Wor. Mariano Q. Tinio, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 16, 1983 - M.W. Rosendo Herrera, formally constituted **Mangkas Lodge No. 260** at La Carlota City.

JULY 17, 1934 - **KutangBato Lodge No. 110**, was constituted by Rt. Wor. Samuel R. Hawthorne at the old High School Building in Cotabato, Cotabato.

JULY 17, 1965 - **Cordillera Lodge No. 178**, was constituted by Rt. Wor. Mariano Q. Tinio, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 17, 1971 - **Saranay Lodge No. 193**, was constituted by M.W. Damasco C. Tria at Cabarroguis, Sub-Province of Quirino.

JULY 18, 1964 - **Narra Lodge No. 171**, was constituted by Grand Master Charles Mosebook at San Jose, Nueva Ecija.

JULY 18, 1981 - **Arcadio Evangelista Memorial Lodge No. 254**, was constituted by Grand Master Simeon Rene Lacson at San Francisco, Anao, Tarlac.

JULY 20, 1963 - **Apo Kahoy Lodge No. 166**, was constituted at Ginoong, Oriental Misamis by M.W. Charles Mosebrook, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 20, 1974 - **Hundred Islands Lodge No. 201**, was constituted at Alaminos, Pangasinan by Grand Master John O. Wallace.

JULY 22, 1978 - **Tacloban City Lodge No. 221**, was constituted at Tacloban City by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay, Sr.

JULY 23, 1964 - **Micronesia Lodge No. 173**, was constituted at Saipan, Marianes Islands by W.B. Hugh C. Donaldsen, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 23, 1966 - **Sierra Madre Lodge No. 181**, was constituted in Paete, Laguna by Grand Master Raymond E. Wilmarth.

JULY 23, 1976 - **Beacon Lodge No. 213**, was constituted at Davao City by Grand master Jose L. Araneta.

JULY 24, 1976 - **Koronadal Lodge No. 209**, was constituted at Koronadal, South Cotabato by Grand Master Jose L. Araneta.

JULY 24, 1982 - **Naga City Lodge No. 257**, was constituted at Naga City and Bukidnon Bodies, A & ASR, was constituted in Bukidnon.

JULY 25, 1992 - **Kupang Lodge No. 295**, was constituted in San Jose, Bulacan.

JULY 26, 1976 - **Lantawan Lodge No. 210**, was constituted at Cadiz City by PGM Calixto Zaldivar, acting as Grand Master.

JULY 27, 1974 - **Negrese Lodge No. 210**, was constituted at Bacolod City by Grand Master John O. Wallace.

JULY 28, 1979 - **Quintin Salas Lodge No. 231**, was constituted in Dumangas, Iloilo.

JULY 29, 1978 - **Ifugao Lodge No. 218**, was constituted by Grand Master Desiderio Dalisay at Kiangan, Ifugao.

JULY 31, 1981 - **Kamayo Lodge No. 255**, was constituted at Mangagoy, Surigao del Sur by Grand Master Simeon Rene Lacson.

Please send us the date when your Lodge was constituted if your Lodge is not included in the MAY, JUNE, JULY Issue.

“The just and the worthy must suffer so that their ideals may be known and disseminated. You have to strike the vase and break it to release its perfume. You have to smile the rock in order to draw the spark. There is something providential in the persecution of tyrants.”

-Jose Rizal

ANG MGA GURONG MASON

by: VR Romeo S. Musngi



pangkatiranan na siyang tinatayang pinakamatandang samahan sa buong daigdigang. Sila ay matiyagang dumaan sa mga pagsubok at pagaaral sa tatlong antas ng kamalayang sadyang itinuturo sa masoneryang ritual.

Ang Gurong Mason (Master Mason) ay sadyang inilakip sa mga mason na nagtataglay ng mga kasanayan ng isang guro maestro sa paggawa (konstruksyon ng isang gusali o templo) noong pa mang

Ngayong mga panahon ang mga aktibong mga mamayaman ay nabibilang sa ibat-ibang mga samahan, katulad ng mga institusyong pang-pamahalaan o mga pansimbahan o ibat-ibang mga samahang may-uring sibiko sang-ayon na rin sa kanilang mga simulain o patakaran.

Gayun din naman ang mga gurong mason ay sinasabing nabibilang sa isang pandaigdigang samahang

mga unang panahon.

Ang mga kasanayan sa wastong pagbuo at pamamahala sa mga manggagawa sa paggawa ng gusali ng mga panahong yaon, kasama na rito ang pagpili ng gagawa, pagbibilang ng mga kailangang materyales, at ang pamamahala at wastong pagsubaybay sa buong panahon ng konstruksyon.

Ang maging gurong mason ay

sadyang mahirap marating ng mga panahong yaon. Ito ay sadyang pinatibay ng panahon at pagsubok sa pagtatayo at pagbuo ng gusali at ang kanilang kasanayan sa pagdadala at wastong pamamalakad upang maging maayos ang lahat hanggang mabuo ang templo.

Sa kanilang kakayahan sila ay binabayaran ng higit sa karaniwang manggagawa.

Ang mga gurong mason sa Grand Logia sa kasalukuyang panahon.

Bago pa man magkaroon ng institusyong (makahari) o momarkial ang mga Ingles sa panahon ni Reyna Elizabeth ay dahan-dahan ng nabuo ang manggagawang mason, upang kaipala ay mailagay sa wasto ang kamalayan at pagpili ng mga kasapi, idagdag pa rito ang kakayahan o kwalipikasyon ng mga sumasapi at ang kanilang mga karapatan at tungkulin sa panahon sosyal. Dahan-dahan itong maging mga samahang kapatiran.

Sa panahong ito ano ang dapat gawin ng mga gurong mason.

Upang maging gurong mason kinakailangang dumaan ka sa ritual na pagsubok. Matutunan mong mayroong isang dakilang lumikha, ito ay hindi lamang sapat na maipamalas mo sa iyong pag-uugali, sa iyong

pang araw-araw nang gawa sa opisina, sa simbahan, o saloob man at labas ng iyong tahanan. Magsilbi ka sanang isang mabuting halimbawa ng isang mamamayang nagpapahalaga sa Diyos, sa bayan, sa iyong sarili at sa kapwa.

Ang pagdamay sa kapwa ay lagi ng maging bahagi ng iyong pagkatao. Laging isaisip ang kababaang-loob pagbibigay unawa sa ating kapwa. Ipakita natin na tayo sa ating pagiging mga gurong mason ay higit na maging mabuti ang antas ng ating pagkatao, at pang-uunawa sa kapwa tao ang pagmamahal kapatid ang pagdamay at katutuhanan ang siyang mga pangunahing katuruan sa bawat mason. Upang higit na mapagbuti ang pakikiisa at pakikipagkapwa, tunay na pang-unawa, pagpapatawad at pagmamahal sa bawat isa sa gayon kaayusan kapatiran ang siyang higit na layunin ng ating kapatiran.

Ang isang tunay na gurong mason, dapat ay mapanuri at mapagmatyag sa sinasali ng kalikasan, tungo sa ikabubuti ng mamamayan at buong sambayanan. May talino at paggalang sa kapatiran, mapagbigkis sa ikabubuti ng lahat, mapagbigay at bukas palad sa nangangailangan na kapatid at maging ang kapwa – tungo sa pagkakaisa ng isip, lakas at puso.

A Momentous

MID-SUMMER RENDEZVOUS OF TWO JURISDICTIONS

By Bro Joel Potenciano, Senior Warden



In spite of the slowdown in Masonic activities after the summer solstice as most lodges in the Metropolitan Region has gone dark, the Grand Lodge of New York (GLNY) was a buzz as it played host to a very distinguished visitor in the person of MW Romeo S. Momo, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines (MWGLP). Pyramid Lodge No. 490 in the Fourth Manhattan District organized a packed itinerary

for the visitation of MW Momo who was on a personal trip visiting the New York Metropolitan Area and was accompanied by several of his grand line officers. Past Masters, WB Dennis Villanueva, WB Wilibrordo Urbiztondo and WB Ariston Cabildo chaperoned the illustrious guests and treated them to an activity filled program which included: guided tours of New York City, the Masonic Hall and the Livingston Masonic Library & Museum as well as a



from various lodges across the different districts in the Metropolitan Region as well other Masonic jurisdictions including the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and the Grand Lodge of California.

The French Doric Room was beautifully decorated with the colors of the United States and the Philippines standing proudly side by side in the dais as the lodge room easily filled to capacity overflowing into the adjacent rooms. The evening's festivities kicked off at 8'o clock pm with WB Virgilio

round of golf at the championship golf course of Galloping Hill in Kenilworth, New Jersey.

The highlight of MW Momo's trip came on July 12, 2018, when Pyramid Lodge No. 490 held its 3628th Special Communication at the French Doric Room of the Masonic Hall on 23rd Street. This special communication was hosted by our very own MW William M. Sardone, Grand Master of the Masons of the State of New York and was presented with the honors of receiving MW Momo. Several of GLNY grand line officers were at hand during the reception, which included: RW Steven Rubin, Grand Treasurer; RW Richard Schulz, Grand Secretary; RW Scott Peat, Grand Standard Bearer and RW David Menegon, Grand Senior Deacon. This auspicious occasion was graced upon by a hundred strong brethren from Pyramid Lodge together with representation

Inocencio acting as the evening's Master of Ceremonies and started with the uniquely executed processional march by lodge officers. This was ensued by the address of WM Amory Kalalo, Master of Pyramid Lodge, which warmly welcomed the brethren and guests. Reception of dignitaries ensued including several members of the grand line of the Grand Lodge of New York and nearby jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. MW Momo was received with grand honors by those present followed by our very own Grand Master, MW Sardone. Euphonious music accompanied the entrance of the distinguished East through tuneful efforts of Bro. Lemuel Banaga, who was the evening's organist.

RW Valentin Basiga, Past Master of Pyramid Lodge and Grand Representative of the MWGLP near the

Grand Lodge of New York, introduced MW Momo to the interested audience. The visiting Grand Master of the Philippines was greeted with brevities by those present which he then proceeded to address them about his interesting Masonic journey. He takes us to back to his love of history and his emulation of heroes that shaped up the Philippine Revolution, many of whom were Masons. MW Momo attributes the strong character of his country's history to Masonry along with the close ties of friendship to Masons in the United States who were instrumental in attaining his country's dreams of liberty, self-determination and independence. A civil engineer by trade, he is a loving husband to Madam Eleanor Darvin, who accompanied him on this trip. His a dedicated father to his four children. Though retired from his profession and serving government, the Grand Master of the Philippines is still eager in building bridges, avenues, highways, roads and public buildings but of a different kind. His belief in spiritual structures and moral construction works designed to alleviate the plight of his countrymen especially in far-flung areas; aimed to develop and to pave the way for progress; and connect his people. He is a firm believer that Masons are bridges and avenues toward a more harmonious brotherhood of men, a peaceful and progressive Grand Lodge of the Philippines, and to be a Fraternity that cares for his fellowmen, especially the less fortunate members of society.

At 9 o'clock, the Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, MW Sardone, was introduced by RW Valentin Basiga. MW Sardone proceeded by congratulating Pyramid Lodge for sharing this honor of hosting MW Momo and, thanked them for their hospitality that for the second time, he is gracing once again his lodge's special moment in its history since the installation of its officers less than a month ago. MW Sardone is an honorary member of Pyramid Lodge. He spoke to the brethren who make up the body of the lodge, congratulated them on the record of their past and admonished them to look towards its bright future. The Grand Master of New York then shared his own vision for the future of Masonry particularly to one that knows no boundaries and to the same that is inclusive rather than reclusive. He encouraged members to engage others not just from within but beyond the New York jurisdiction. He spoke of the history being now for the brethren to represent the type of strong men, the kind that can be leaned upon to make the Fraternity progressive and ever faithful to its tenets as well as a shining example of charitable selflessness to society and an institution in nation building. His parting words to the brethren and guests present who listened with eager interest and intellectual pleasure resonated that overall mood of the evening, Harmony and Brotherly Love. He highlighted how two Grand Jurisdictions though separated by thousands of miles part coming together as one in unity and

bonded by the same principles and virtues of Masonry. He commended this evening's events that permeate the true essence of the Craft and the universality of the Fraternity's common values and beliefs. Together with the DeMolays, MW Sardone ended the evening's reception by presenting MW Momo with a GLNY plaque as token of continuing friendship and brotherly love, which the esteemed guest returned the favor by presenting him with a Masonic Barong Tagalog (national costume of the Philippines) and Plaque.

Through the splendid coordination of Bro Achilles Santos, Junior Warden, the evening was capped off with dinner and fellowship which followed suit at the adjacent French Ionic Room to the treat of the guests with traditional Filipino food, spirited libations and cheerful conversations.

Pyramid Lodge F. & A. M. was founded under dispensation on August 28, 1859 at Jackson Hall, 120 West 28th Street in New York City and received its Charter from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York on June 22, 1860 where it was given the Lodge number 490. One of the early members of the Lodge was RW Harry P. Knowles, being well known in his profession as an architect, he was selected to build the present Masonic Temple on West 23rd Street in 1908. Today, the Brethren of Pyramid Lodge No. 490 are ever more enthusiastic in upholding the highest Masonic ideals and can truthfully claim that as ever more charitable. Their strength comes from their unity. Their success, never measured by any grand show, but by the impact of their actions to make a difference in the lives of those they touch.



*Building our Temple in the hearts of men.
Logia Fuerte!*

Labong Lodge No. 59

LODGE ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2018

1. The brethren of Labong Lodge No. 59 led by WM RJ Samonte conducted a Balik Eskwela Project at the Cubamba Covered Court, Taal Batangas on May 20, 2018. A total of 250 students from Bancare Elementary School, Balite Elementary School, Calangay Elementary School and Cubamba Elementary School received backpacks containing school supplies to be used for the upcoming school year. those who attended were WM RJ Samonte, Bro SW Errol Bacalzo, Bro JW Stevenson Ang, VW Bros

Gani Cruz, Ramon Cristobal, Winston Chingkiat, Rudy Ong, Alex Yu, Ali Espina, WB Larry Orallo, Bros Freddie Casalme, Jimmy Abuedo, Mike Pineda, Nani Mitra, Miguel Solomon, Eric Calazan, Cesar Co, Sharkie Rodriguez, Sam Bernales, Louie Mababangloob, Aaron Ho, Bowie Kho, Garry Alegre, Jewel Nicanor, Bryan Kiok, Pol Suntay and Guillor Eleazar, Petitioners Doff, Rodvick, Gem, Jeff, Stephen, Justin, and Jun also attended to support the project of the Lodge.



Batasan Lodge No. 381

JUNE ACTIVITIES



Our recently conducted 2nd Lodge Family day and Adopt a tree planting activity, held in VISTA REAL CLASSICA CLUBHOUSE wherein huge number of brethren together with their family grace the said event, parlor games and swimming took a big break from our members and after which a ceremonial adopt a tree program was held in the VRC green park.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS AT DIAMOND HOTEL:
VW VLADIMIR F. PELAEZ *and* VW ALEXANDER B. MADAMBA





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- Two-hour complimentary use of the meeting room
- Complimentary broadband internet access
- Discounts on food & beverage, laundry, dry clean & minibar consumption

*Valid upon presentation of Lodge I.D



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**EV INTERIOR
CONSTRUCTION**



ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

**OFFERS: GENERAL CONSTRUCTION AND
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Valley Hotel

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